Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Withdrawn) Use of (a) a nucleic acid molecule encoding human Kremen 1 and having the nucleotide sequence as depicted in FIG. 1 or human Kremen 2 and having the nucleotide sequence as depicted in FIG. 2, (b) a nucleic acid molecule which is capable of specifically hybridizing to the nucleotide sequence encoding Kremen 1 as depicted in FIG. 1 and/or to the nucleotide sequence encoding Kremen 2 as depicted in FIG. 2; or (c) at least one ligand which is capable of specifically binding to a Kremen 1 and/or Kremen 2 polypeptide, for the preparation of a composition for diagnosis of a defect of the wnt/frz/LRP5,6 cascade.

2. (Withdrawn) The use of claim 1, wherein the ligand is an antibody.

3. (Withdrawn) The use of claim 1 or 2, wherein the nucleic acid molecule has a length of at least 10 nucleotides.

4. (Withdrawn) The use of any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the nucleic acid molecule or ligand are detectably labeled.

5. (Withdrawn) The use of claim 4, wherein the label is selected from the group consisting of a radioisotope, a bioluminescent compound, a chemiluminescent compound, a fluorescent compound, a metal chelate, or an enzyme.

6. (Withdrawn) The use of any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the nucleic acid molecule or ligand are bound to a solid support.

7. (Withdrawn) Use according to claims 1 to 6, wherein the target to which the nucleic acid molecule hybridizes is an mRNA.

8. (Currently Amended) A method for identifying a compound for modulating the Wnt signal cascade which is based on identifying a binding partner to a Kremen 1 and/or Kremen 2 polypeptide comprising:

(a) contacting said polypeptide with a compound to be screened; and

(b) determining whether the compound ~~effects~~ an activity of said polypeptide or whether binding of the compound to said polypeptide has ~~occured~~ occurred.

9. (Currently Amended) A method for identifying a compound for modulating the Wnt signal cascade as an ~~activators/agonists~~ activator/agonist or ~~inhibitors/antagonists~~ inhibitor/antagonist of a Kremen 1 and/or Kremen 2 polypeptide comprising the steps of:

(a) incubating a candidate compound with said polypeptide;

(b) assaying a biological activity, and

(c) determining if a biological activity of said polypeptide has been altered.

10. (Withdrawn) Use of a nucleotide molecule encoding a polypeptide having a biological activity of Kremen 1 and/or Kremen 2, a Kremen 1 and/or Kremen 2 polypeptide, an activator/agonist of a Kremen 1 and/or Kremen 2 polypeptide or binding partner of said polypeptide(s) for the preparation of a pharmaceutical composition for inhibiting the Wnt signal cascade.

11. (Withdrawn) Use according to claim 10 for supporting regenerative processes.

12. (Withdrawn) An activator/agonist or inhibitor/antagonist of a Kremen 1 and/or Kremen 2 polypeptide or binding partner of said polypeptide(s) obtainable by the method claim 8 or 9.

13. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound which is capable of modulating the expression of a nucleic acid molecule (a) encoding human Kremen 1 and having

the nucleotide sequence as depicted in FIG. 1 or human Kremen 2 and having the nucleotide sequence as depicted in FIG. 2 or (b) which is capable of specifically hybridizing to the nucleotide sequence encoding human Kremen 1 as depicted in FIG. 1 and/or to the nucleotide sequence encoding human human Kremem 2 as depicted in FIG. 2 or the activity of Kremen 1 and/or Kremen 2, and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, diluent or carrier.

14. (Withdrawn) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 13, wherein the compound stimulates expression of the gene encoding Kremen 1 and/or Kremen 2 or the activity of Kremen 1 and/or Kremen 2.

15. (Withdrawn) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 13 or 14, wherein the compound is a nucleotide molecule encoding a polypeptide having a biological activity of Kremen 1 and/or Kremen 2, a Kremen 1 and/or Kremen 2 polypeptide, an activator/agonist or inhibitor/antagonist of a Kremen 1 and/or Kremen 2 polypeptide or binding partner of said polypeptide(s) obtainable by the method of claim 8 or 9.

16. (New) A method according to claim 8, wherein the compound to be screened is an antibody that recognizes Kremen 1 and/or Kremen 2.

17. (New) A method according to claim 8, wherein the compound to be screened is a small molecule.

18. (New) A method according to claim 8, wherein the compound to be screened is a nucleic acid.

19. (New) A method according claim 8, wherein the method utilizes cells which express Kremen 1 and/or Kremen 2.

20. (New) A method according to claim 8, wherein the method is carried out using cell-free preparations.

21. (New) A method according to claim 9, wherein the candidate compound is an antibody that recognizes Kremen 1 and/or Kremen 2.

22. (New) A method according to claim 9, wherein the candidate compound or is a small molecule.

23. (New) A method according to claim 9, wherein the candidate compound is a nucleic acid.

24. (New) A method according claim 9, wherein the method utilizes cells which express Kremen 1 and/or Kremen 2.

25. (New) A method according to claim 9, wherein the method is carried out using cell-free preparations.